

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-28 were pending in the application. Claims 16-24 were withdrawn. Claims 1, 10, 13-14 and 25-26 have been amended. Claims 4, 12, 15 and 27 have been cancelled. Claim 29 has been added. Claims 1, 10, 13, 25 and 29 are independent claims. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Notably, the amendments to claims 1, 10, 13 and 25 are only intended to expedite prosecution of the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present previously pending claims in one or more continuation applications.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Office Action states that claims 4-6, 12, 15 and 27 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

#### **Claim Amendments**

Claims 1, 10, 13, 25 have been amended to recite the subject matter of original claims 4, 12, 15 and 27, respectively, in independent form. Claims 13 and 25 have been further amended to correct a typo in claims 15 and 27, respectively, and to delete the recitation "adapted to".

Claim 29 has been added to recite the subject matter of original claim 6 in independent form.

#### **Claim Objections**

The Office Action objects to claims 13-14 and 25-26 because of informalities.

Claims 13-14 and 25-26 have been amended.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

**Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103**

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 7-9, 10, 13 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,236,491 (Tsao et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0204653 (Katayama et al.).

The Office Action rejects claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0213235 (Marshall et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0204653 (Katayama et al.).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

**Claim 1**

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter of original claim 4 in independent form.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

As stated above, the amendment to claim 1 is only intended to expedite prosecution of the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action. Moreover, as stated above, Applicants expressly reserve the right to present previously pending claims in one or more continuation applications.

**Claim 10**

Claim 10 has been amended to recite the subject matter of original claim 12 in independent form.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

As stated above, the amendment to claim 10 is only intended to expedite prosecution of the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action. Moreover, as stated above, Applicants expressly reserve the right to present previously pending claims in one or more continuation applications.

**Claim 13**

Claim 13 has been amended to recite the subject matter of original claim 15 in independent form.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

As stated above, the amendment to claim 13 is only intended to expedite prosecution of the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action. Moreover, as stated above, Applicants expressly reserve the right to present previously pending claims in one or more continuation applications.

Claim 25

Claim 25 has been amended to recite the subject matter of original claim 27 in independent form.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

As stated above, the amendment to claim 25 is only intended to expedite prosecution of the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action. Moreover, as stated above, Applicants expressly reserve the right to present previously pending claims in one or more continuation applications.

Added claim 29

Claim 29 has been added to recite the subject matter of original claim 6 in independent form.

Accordingly, allowance of claim 29 is respectfully requested.

As stated above, the amendments to the claims are only intended to expedite prosecution of the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action. Moreover, Applicants expressly reserve the right to present previously pending claims in one or more continuation applications.

Dependent claims

Allowance of claims depending from the independent claims is also respectfully requested

## CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Because the reasons set forth above are sufficient to overcome the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action, Applicants do not address some of the assertions set forth therein and/or other possible reasons for overcoming the rejections. Nonetheless, Applicants reserve the right to address such assertions and/or to present other possible reasons for overcoming the rejections in any future paper and/or proceeding.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application in any way, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0006, ext. 1014.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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